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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 30, 2020

SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m.**, **Sunday**, **August 2**, **through 12:00 noon**, **Tuesday**, **August 4**, **2020**, in those waters south of 54°54.50′ N lat (approximately 1.0 nautical mile (nmi) south of Foggy Point), with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point at 54°50.03′ N lat.

District 6: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 2, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 4, 2020, with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: will be closed;

Salmon Bay: will be closed west of a line from Point Colpoys at 56°20.18′ N lat, 132°11.90′ W long to Rookery Island Light at 56°18.85′ N lat, 133°06.34′ W long to the westernmost tip of Fire Island at 56°14.04′ N lat, 132°03.59′ W long to a point on Prince of Wales Island at 56°14.04′ N lat, 132°04.41′ W long.

District 8: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 2, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 4, 2020, with the following restrictions:

<u>Frederick Sound</u>: will be closed south and west of a line from a point 1.0 nmi off the Kupreanof Island shoreline on the District 10 boundary at 56°57.13′ N lat, 132°59.05′ W long to Sukoi Island Light at 56°53.73′ N lat, 132°56.64′ W long to Frederick Point at 56°47.55′ N lat, 132°49.27′ W long and south and east of a line from the mainland shore near the latitude of the southernmost tip of McDonald Island at 56°50.67′ N lat, 132°47.36′ W long to the southernmost tip of McDonald Island at 56°50.76′ N lat, 132°49.25′ W long to Fredrick Point at 56°47.55′ N lat, 132°49.27′ W long;

Stikine River: will be closed east of a line from the western shore of Blind Slough at 56°30.73′ N lat, 132°43.60′ W long to Craig Point Light at 56°27.40′ N lat, 132°42.95′ W long to South Craig Point at 56°23.40′ N lat, 132°37.34′ W long to Reef Point at 56°21.37′ N lat, 132°33.54′ W long to East Point at 56°22.97′ N lat, 132°24.28′ W long to a point on the Wrangell Island shoreline located at the latitude of East Point at 56°22.97′ N lat, 132°21.42′ W long;

<u>Kunk Creek</u>: will be closed west of a line extending due south from a point on Etolin Island at 56°17.83′ N lat, 132°23.04′ W long to the District 7/8 boundary line in Zimovia Strait.

Section 11-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 2, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 4, 2020, with the following restrictions:

<u>Limestone Inlet</u>: will be closed east of a line from a point on the north shore at 58°02.03′ N lat, 133°59.59′ W long to a point on the south shore at 58°01.72′ N lat, 133°59.43′ W long (outside markers);

Port Snettisham: will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman at 57°58.42′ N lat, 133°53.93′ W long to Point Anmer at 57°56.07′ N lat, 133°51.05′ W long.

The Point Bishop area closure to increase passage of DIPAC chum salmon needed for broodstock into Gastineau Channel has been rescinded.

Section 15-A: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 2, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 4, 2020, with the following restrictions:

<u>Lynn Canal:</u> will be closed north of the latitude of Seduction Point at 59°04.93′ N lat, 135°18.48′ W long and west of a line from Seduction Point to Eldred Rock Light at 58°58.25′ N lat, 135°13.26′ W long to a point 2.0 nmi from the eastern shoreline at 58°50.80′ N lat, 135°12.77′ W long (the latitude of Sherman Rock);

<u>Chilkoot Inlet:</u> will be closed south of the latitude of the Katzehin River flats light at 59°11.73′ N lat and north of a line from Tanani Point at 59°16.39′ N lat, 135°26.46′ W long to Taiya Point at 59°17.25′ N lat, 135°24.14′ W long.

There will be no night closures or mesh restrictions in effect in Section 15-A.

Section 15-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 2, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 4, 2020, with the following restrictions:

Lynn Canal: will be closed north of the latitude of Point Bridget at 58°40.73′ N lat;

St. James Bay: will be closed north of line from a regulatory marker at 58°33.44′ N lat, 135°09.44′ W long to Point Whidbey at 58°34.40′ N lat, 135°08.36′ W long.

Section 15-C: Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA) outer waters east of 135°09.57′ W long **remains open** until further notice within 1.0 nmi of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.75′ N lat, and north of the latitude of a regulatory marker at 58°36.96′ N lat, 135°08.40′ W long.

There will be no night closures or mesh restrictions in effect in Section 15-C.

Section 15-C: Boat Harbor THA inner waters west of 135°09.57' W long remains open until further notice.

Please code harvests for the inside waters of the Boat Harbor THA to statistical area 115-12.

Fishermen and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.

To date, only 1,244 sockeye salmon have been counted at the Hugh Smith Lake weir. The current weir count projects to a total escapement of 3,800 sockeye salmon, well below the optimal escapement goal range of 8,000–18,000 sockeye salmon. The department will continue to monitor the sockeye salmon escapement as the season progresses and may take management action through statistical week 33.

The Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery is currently being managed according to the District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 33.360). The District 1 purse seine fishery is expected to receive at least one day of fishing time during statistical week 32. Therefore, the Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery will be given two days of fishing time. If the District 1 purse seine fishery is open for more than one day during statistical week 32 the fishing time in Section 1-B will be extended accordingly.

All Chinook salmon harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. Chinook salmon less than 28 inches in length and those of Alaska hatchery origin will not be counted against Southeast Alaska's all gear harvest limit of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Therefore, fishermen and tenders are requested to keep Chinook salmon harvested in THAs separate from those harvested in traditional fishing areas. Separating these harvests will allow for better accounting of harvests and assist in sampling the harvests to identify Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S3720.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates
Statistical Week 31 (July 26 through August 1)
Preliminary Estimates Compiled July 30, 2020

NUMBER OF SALMON								
								Days
District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Open
District 1	60	700	600	50,000	20,000	71,360	30	4
District 6	25	700	1,200	18,000	14,000	33,925	45	2
District 11	50	6,000	1,000	14,000	7,000	28,050	55	2
District 15	30	5,000	200	7,000	17,000	29,230	73	2
Total	165	12,400	3,000	89,000	58,000	162,565		

FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	
District 1	2	23	20	1,667	667	2,379	
District 6	1	16	27	400	311	754	
District 11	1	109	18	255	127	510	
District 15	0	68	3	96	233	400	

Nakat Inlet THA harvest to date: 45,000 chum salmon.

Deep Inlet THA harvest to date: 3,600 Chinook and 75,000 chum salmon.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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